For Further Information Contact: Kelly Herzog MVCTC Public Information Coordinator Phone - 937-854-6056 E-Mail – <u>kherzog@mvctc.com</u>



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Montgomery County Commissioners Witness the Value of Career Technical Education at MVCTC

Clayton, Ohio – Montgomery County Commissioners Debbie Lieberman and Judy Dodge, visited the Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) campus on Monday, January 28, 2013, to tour the campus and meet with students and staff.

Commissioners Lieberman and Dodge toured MVCTC high school programs and spoke with many students and staff about their classes and experiences at MVCTC. This included visiting the MVCTC Computer Technology Academy – GIS and Technical Intelligence Program, Dental Assistant, Biotechnology, Precision Machining, Robotics, Aviation Maintenance Technician, and Welding Programs. Aviation Technician senior, Austin Herman (Northmont), shared with Commissioners Dodge and Lieberman his experiences at MVCTC, which include receiving FFA Airframe Certification as a high school senior and taking on-line college classes towards an Associate's Degree while still in High School. Austin will be on track to receive both his high school diploma and Associate's degree from Eastern New Mexico University in Aircraft Maintenance. "MVCTC has given me an opportunity to be a high school graduate, college graduate, and become a certified aircraft mechanic all within two years. I have put in a lot of effort but the rewards can be endless at this point," shared Austin.

After the tour was complete, Commissioners Dodge and Lieberman had the opportunity to meet with MVCTC Superintendent, Dr. Nick Weldy, and MVCTC Adult Education Supervisor Mrs. Amy Leedy.

Career Technical Education (CTE) encompasses 94 percent of high school students and 13 million postsecondary students in the United States and includes high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more. CTE is a major part of the solution to many national economic and workforce problems, such as high school dropout rates, a weakened economy, global competitiveness and massive layoffs. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly one-third of the fastest growing occupations will require an associate's degree or a postsecondary vocational certificate. At a time when job opportunity is so critical, CTE programs in every community are ensuring students are adequately equipped with the skills to successfully enter the workforce.

For more information about MVCTC, please visit <u>www.mvctc.com</u>.

For over 40-years, MVCTC has been providing career technical education for 27 partner school districts encompassing five counties in Southwest Ohio. MVCTC is dedicated to providing in-demand workforce training for youth, adults, and organizations in the Miami Valley.

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Photo 1: Montgomery County Commissioners, Judge Dodge and Debbie Lieberman, visited the Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) campus on Monday, January 28, 2013. Pictured – Commissioners Dodge and Lieberman speak with MVCTC Technical Intelligence & GIS senior, Jacob Pepple (Arcanum).